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SERVICES OF ADVOCATE COMMUNITY
WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR LONG:
CHIEF JUSTICE OF LAHORE HIGH COURT

LAHORE, APRIL 12, 2014:

Chief Justice of Lahore High Court, Mr. Justice Umar Ata Bandial has said that services of advocate community will be remembered for long. Pakistan was created by an advocate, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, its perception was given by another advocate, Allama Muhammad Iqbal and yet a number of other advocate leaders of Pakistan Movement had struggled for this homeland.

The Hon'ble Chief Justice was addressing to a Seminar on the topic of Court Reporting and Dispensation of Justice organized at Punjab Judicial Academy by Press Council of Pakistan (PCP). Mr. Justice Manzoor Ahmad Malik, Mr. Justice Muhammad Anwaarul Haq, Mr. Justice Ali Baqar Najfi, Mr. Justice Abdus Sami Khan, Raja Muhammad Shafqar Abbasi, Chairman PCP, Ch. Muhammad Ramzan, Vice Chairman Pakistan Bar Council, Registrar LHC Sardar Ahmad, Mr. Sohail Nasir, Director General of Academy, Mr. Mujeeb ur Rehman Shami, President CPNE, Mr. Saeed Aasi, Deputy Editor, Daily Nawa-i-Waqt and a large number of advocates and media men were present there.

The Hon'ble Chief Justice recalled that the Lawyers Movement of 2007 was unique in a sense that not a leaf tree was broken or public property damaged as the movement was purely based on dialogue, the most trusted weapon of the advocates. Hon'ble Chief Justice hoped that in future too the judiciary, lawyers, civil society and media would jointly ensure the supremacy of the rule of law in the country. Hon'ble Chief Justice said that the role of media was very important for the rule of law in the country and restoration of Constitutional rights of the public. Hon'ble Chief Justice said that contempt of court law was used as a tool to intimidate the journalist

community in the past but the present judiciary has courage to face the positive and constructive criticism and had not invoked this draconian law. Hon'ble Chief Justice said that the language of law was more laborious than the ordinary one and requires a vast knowledge and expertise to have grasp over the legal terminology. We, the Judges, also go through law books while dictating the judgments; therefore, the journalists should also take extra care while reporting judicial matters so that their news may not prejudice the court proceedings. Hon'ble Chief Justice further said that judges cannot decide cases without assistance from the legal fraternity and the role of advocates in the dispensation of justice cannot be undermined. At the end, Hon'ble Chief Justice lauded the role of court reporting in Lahore High Court and saluted the media men for their responsible reporting.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman PCP, Raja Muhammad Shafqat Abbasi said that era of Press Release was over and now media was an independent entity, like other state institutions and it was need of the hour to be self accountable. Each institution should endeavor for more service to the masses. Vice Chairman Pakistan Bar Council asked the media men to curtail the fashion of tickers on electronic media. Mr. Mujeeb ur Rehman Shami, President CPNE, spoke for the training of media men. Mr. Saeed Aasi said that reporters of the today were lucky that they got favorable environment in the courts and advised the media men to be more responsible and careful in the discharge of their obligations. The Hon'ble Chief Justice gave away the certificates to the Court Reporters while Chairman Press Council of Pakistan presented a shield to the Hon'ble Chief Justice. **(MEDIA CELL)**